ships, non-availability of building berths in shipyards, etc., it may not be feasible for the shipping companies to do so..

Indians engaged in Construction Companies in Iraq

436. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of EXTRENAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps so far to provide safety to all the Indians engaged by Indian construction companies in Iraq;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of Indians held up in Iraq since the war broke out; and

(d) by when all the Indians would be brought back safely?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) to (d) All Indian companies working in Iraq, in fact, all Indian nationals there, had been repeatedly advised well before the hostilities broke out to leave and all possible assistance was given in that respect. At the time of the outbreak of recent hostilities there were about 2000 of our nationals in Iraq. As per the latest information all but about 130 have left Iraq. Everything possible is being done to get the remaining people out, but is is not possible to indicate a date by which they will be out.

India's Initiative on Convening Meeting of the UN Security Council

437. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to direct the country's permanent representative to the United Nations to ask for a meeting of the Security Council immediately to review the progress of the implementation of Resolution 678 (which authorised the use of force for the liberation of Kuwait) as required under Para four of the Resolution;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on the progress of the implementation of Resolution 678; and

(c) by when a final decision would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) India's Permanent Representative at the UN has stated our position that the Security Council should keep under continuous review action taken under Resolution 678, as required by Para 4 of that Resolution.

(b) and (c) Government have noted with deep concern that the destruction unleashed by the hostilities in the Gulf has not been confined to military targets. Government have pointed out that the objectives of SCR 678 is to liberate Kuwait and not to subdue Iraq or to dismantle its technological and physical infrastructure. The official spokesman's statement of 9-2-91 is placed on the table of the House.

Statement

The Government of India has noted deep concern that the destruction unleashed by the hostilities in the Gulf has not been confined to military targets. Many innocent lives have been lost Civilian properties, including thousands of dwelling houses, have been destroyed. Civilian traffic on the road from Baghadad to Amman has been hit, causing death and injuries to many civilians. Millions of civilians have been caught up in the violence, particularly in Kuwait, without shelter or protection against bombing. Their plight is compounded by the health hazard faced by them owing to the absence of electricity and increasing shortages of clean water. We would urge that internationally accepted methods of warfare by scruplously adhered to and every possible precaution taken to protect the civilian population against the devastations and risks of the military operations.

The UN Security Council Resolution 678 authorises member—States cooperating with the Government of Kuwait, to use all necessary means to uphold and implement the Security Council Resolution 660. Even those who are participating in the Gulf war in pursuance of this resolution, have recog-

nised that the objective is to liberate Kuwait and not to subdue Iraq or to dismantle its technological and physical infrastructure or to cripple its social and economic life. The UN Security Council must, at all times ensure that the conduct of military operations is in strict conformity with the objective of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 678. For this purpose, it should meet urgently to review the present situation and thereafter from time to time, to keep the matter under constant review.

Pak bid to link Kashmir issue with Kuwait and Palestine

438. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan is trying to link the Kashmir issue to the implementation of U. N. resolutions on Kuwait, Palestine and Jammu and Kashmir and seeking the support of Organisation of Islamic Countries in this regard; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to counter this new move by the Pakistani Prime Minister and to dispel the erroneous impressions that he had given in a bid to rally the O.I.C. around those issues?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes sir, the six point Pakistani peace plan for the Gulf enunciated by the Prime Minister of Pakistan on 4th February, 1991, in the Pakistan National Assembly, inter-alia, calls for an emergency meeting of the OIC to consider all aspects of the Gulf crisis and suggests that "the implementation of UN Resolutions should not be confined to Kuwait only but its resolutions on Kashmir and Palestine should also be implemented".

(b) Concerned countries have been apprised of the facts, namely, that there is no similarity between the situation in Kuwait and that in Kashmir; that Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India; that interference in our internal affairs is unacceptable; that under the Simla Agreement both India and Pakistan undertook to resolve all differences bilaterally and peacefully.

State Highways of Tamil Nadu and Kerala converted into National Highways

439. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state whether the State Highways in Tamil Nadu from Thiramanglem to Shencottah and in Kerala from Shencottah to Trivandrum have been converted into National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): No, Sir.

"वायु मंडल और नदियों को प्रदूषण रहित रखने के लिए कार्य-योजना

440. **श्री रणजीत सिंह :** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने देश में वायुमंडल और नदियों को प्रदूषण रहित रखने के लिए हाल ही में एक कार्य-योजना बनाई है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार ने अब उन उद्योगों की पहचान कर ली है, जो प्रदूषण फैलाते हैं ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि ऐसे ऐसे उद्योगों में सरकारी क्षेत्र के उद्योगों की काफी बड़ी संख्या है;

(घ) यदि हां, तो उनका पूरा ब्यौरा क्या है और सरकार ने सरकारी क्षेत्र के इन उद्यमों के विरुद्ध अभी तक क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती मेनका गांधी) : (क) जी, हां। कार्य योजना में अत्यधिक प्रदूषण फैलाने वाले अभिनिर्धारित उद्योग निम्न लिखित हैं :—